Listing of the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all previous versions and listings of claims in this application:

1. **(Original)** A method for detecting a watermark in content, comprising the steps of:

utilizing only a subset of candidate counter watermark detection techniques for each time interval from a set of available counter watermark detection techniques; and

searching for a watermark utilizing one or more of said subset of candidate counter watermark detection techniques.

2. **(Original)** The method of claim 1, wherein only a second subset of said available counter watermark detection techniques is implemented in a given watermark detector.

3. **(Original)** The method of claim 1, wherein a given watermark detector is provided said subset of available counter watermark detection techniques from a larger pool of available counter watermark detection techniques.

4. **(Original)** The method of claim 2, wherein said first and second subsets of said pool of counter watermark detection techniques are the same.

5. **(Original)** The method of claim 1, wherein said selected counter watermark detection technique is selected randomly from said first subset of a pool of counter watermark detection techniques.

6. **(Original)** The method of claim 1, wherein said steps are repeated until a watermark is detected or all counter watermark detection techniques have been executed.

7. **(Original)** The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of disabling content access if a corrupted watermark is detected.

8. **(Original)** The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of enabling content access if a valid watermark is detected.

9. **(Original)** The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of enabling content access if no watermark has been found after all available counter watermark detection techniques have been executed.

10. **(Original)** The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of restarting said search for a watermark at a beginning of each of said time intervals.

11. **(Original)** The method of claim 1, wherein said subset of a pool of counter watermark detection techniques is selected randomly from all available counter watermark detection techniques.

12. **(Original)** The method of claim 2, wherein said second subset of a pool of counter watermark detection techniques is selected randomly from the first subset of a pool of counter watermark detection techniques.

13. **(Original)** A method for detecting a watermark in content, comprising the steps of:

randomly selecting a counter watermark detection technique from a set of available counter watermark detection techniques; and

searching for a watermark utilizing said selected counter watermark detection technique.

14. **(Original)** The method of claim 13, wherein only a subset of said available counter watermark detection techniques is implemented in a given watermark detector.

15. **(Original)** The method of claim 13, wherein a given watermark detector is provided a subset of available counter watermark detection techniques from a larger pool of available counter watermark detection techniques.

16. **(Original)** The method of claim 13, wherein said set of counter watermark detection techniques is selected randomly from all available counter watermark detection techniques.

17. **(Original)** The method of claim 14, wherein said subset of counter watermark detection techniques is selected randomly from the set of counter watermark detection techniques.

18. **(Original)** The method of claim 13, wherein said steps are repeated until a watermark is detected or all counter watermark detection techniques have been executed.

19. **(Original)** A system for detecting a watermark in content, comprising:

    a memory; and

    at least one processor, coupled to the memory, operative to:

        utilize only a subset of candidate counter watermark detection techniques for each time interval from a set of available counter watermark detection techniques; and

        search for a watermark utilizing one or more of said subset of candidate counter watermark detection techniques.

20. **(Original)** A system for detecting a watermark in content, comprising the steps of:

    a memory; and

    at least one processor, coupled to the memory, operative to:

        randomly select a counter watermark detection technique from a set of available counter watermark detection techniques; and

        search for a watermark utilizing said selected counter watermark detection technique.